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SUBJECT: USG inaugurates military training program on investigation and prosecution of sexual violence cases

REF: 07 Kinshasa 001392 and previous

¶1. Acting DCM Craig Cloud officially opened the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies (DIILS) training program for Congolese military investigators and prosecutors January 28. The four-day course is designed to train Congolese military prosecutors and investigators in gathering evidence and conducting investigations into cases of sexual violence. DIILS instructors will conduct the course 12 times throughout the DRC during the first half of 2008 and aim to reach all the country's 265 military investigators and 232 military prosecutors.

¶2. Speaking at the Higher Military Training Institute (GESM), Mr. Cloud thanked MONUC and the Canadian government for their assistance to DIILS's in facilitating the organization of the program. He also highlighted bilateral cooperation between the USG and the GDRC. Deputy Defense Minister Luc Amuri thanked the USG, MONUC, and Canada for their assistance in building Congolese military capacity to investigate cases of sexual violence.

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